

### Other “homework”

Some parents enjoy completing additional tasks with their children at home and this is something we would encourage. However, although teachers are able to suggest particular tasks that could be completed, we cannot produce individualised home learning tasks for all children.

There are many other ways that you can support your child’s all round education:

Playing games, visiting places of interest, encouraging work on individual interests such as sport, music, etc., practising computer skills, talking about current affairs, etc.

All will help your child develop into a rounded individual.

### *Communicating between home and school*

Our children will only achieve their potential when we all work together towards this goal. This means that with home learning it is important that you know about the work your child is receiving and can feedback to school about how they are doing with it.

In Reception we manage this with our “*Phoneme Pack*”, “*Cromwell Link Book*” and “*Learning Log Book*”

In Key Stage 1 we manage this with our “*Cromwell Link Book*” and a “*Learning Log Book*”.

These books should help us to communicate efficiently. This means that you will be aware of any work coming home and help to ensure that this work has a positive impact on the progress your child is making.

Thank you for your support. **at you give your child in all the work they do. Such support ensures that we are all involved in striving to do the best for all our children.**

## **CROMWELL ACADEMY**

### **Home Learning Guidance for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1**

The children at Cromwell Academy are encouraged to work very hard at school and make the most of the time that they spend here. Whilst their school day ends at 3.15 pm, their education does not. Many children will have after school activities to attend that are important to their all round development. In addition to this, we strongly believe that pupils need some time at the end of the school day to relax and play – vital ingredients for good child development!

Therefore at Cromwell Academy we promote a home learning policy that seeks to strike a balance. This means a policy of regular meaningful activities that gives children the opportunity to have ownership of their learning and yet still allows for plenty of “free time” so necessary for other areas of good child development. We believe school home learning should enrich a child’s education and not be seen as some kind of chore or punishment.

We value your support in helping your child in their learning at home and we would ask that you help your child by encouraging him/her to work in a quiet area away from the TV and by monitoring the quality of the work they produce.

Home learning will vary depending on the age of your child and on activities taking place in school. This leaflet offers general guidelines.

**Reception Class**

**Learning the sounds** – The children will begin to learn the sounds of the alphabet when in Reception. They will be taught up to four sounds each week in a specific order to enable them to word build as soon as possible. Each time a new sound has been taught they will bring it home in their sound book so it can be practised with you.

**Reading** – Reception children will bring home a reading book to share with an adult or sibling. As they start to read more independently, please encourage them to blend the sounds together to make words, look at the pictures and talk about what is happening.

There will be a Cromwell Link Book in their book bags. When your child has read their book and would like to change it, we would appreciate it if you make a comment about how they got on. It is important in these early days of reading that the children have regular practise whenever possible. Cromwell Link Books are checked everyday to enable us to respond to any comments and talk to the children about what they have read. In addition, the book will be used as a means of communicating other issues between the home and school—please do use the book to share any information or queries you may have with the class teacher, these will be checked daily.

**Reading** – In Key Stage 1 the children will be bringing home books from their own reading level. There will be a Cromwell Link Book in their book bags. Please make a comment on how your child has got on with their reading. It is important that in these early stages of reading that the children have regular practise of 10-15 minutes whenever possible. The Cromwell Link Books are checked everyday to enable us to respond to any comments and talk to the children about what they have read. In addition, these book are for communicating other issues between home and school—please do use the book to share any information or queries you may have with the class teacher, these will be checked daily.

**Spellings** – In Key Stage 1, each Monday, all children will be given a spelling pattern/ rule to investigate. This will usually fit in with work that is being taught in class. The following Monday in school, the children will take part in a dictation activity using words containing the spelling pattern/rule investigated during the previous week. The dictation activity will take place in the children's Link Books. It really helps if spelling rules are put into context, and should children wish to learn how to spell specific words, 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' is a valuable method to use.

**Homework** - Home learning will take the form of a book of activities, one English and one Maths per week, these will be linked to the learning that is taking place in the classroom. The children will receive their home learning on a Friday and we will ask for it to be handed in on a Thursday to be marked and handed back to the children on a Friday.